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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I have been paying close attention to the developments of the antitrust case between Microsoft and the Department of Justice, and I am now taking some time to write this letter and go on record as being a staunch supporter of the settlement.

Not only does Microsoft benefit from this agreement, but consumers, the competition, and the economy of the United States will also benefit. Even though Microsoft did not get off easy in the settlement, the terms are reasonable, and this country needs all of its companies performing to the best of their abilities. The settlement paves the way for this by mandating that Microsoft grant computer makers vast new rights to configure Windows so as to promote non-Microsoft software programs that compete with programs included within Windows. This will encourage smaller software firms to work hard and make a good product that consumers will like. In turn, competition will be spurred, and the economy will benefit.

The settlement that has been reached is more than fair, and it will benefit everyone involved. Microsoft can worry less about court and more about innovation. I support this settlement, and urge you to approve it as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bruce Hennes
Sr. Partner

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